

REMARKS

With careful attention to the official action dated August 6, 2007, the specification, drawings and claims have been amended to place the application in condition for allowance.

I. Amendment to the Specification and Drawings

On page 2 of the Action the Examiner has objected to the drawings as not showing all the elements of claims 10 and 12. A replacement sheet of drawings, sheet 1 of 1 is presented, which illustrates the springs of claim 10. Entry of the replacement sheet of drawings is hereby requested. The tensioning device of Claim 12 is illustrated in Figs. 3A and 3B as originally submitted, and is described in the specification at the bottom of page 5, top of page 6, for example, where it is explained how the pull cable 6 is tensioned and the tubular sections 5 become pressed together. The specification has been amended on pages 4 and 7. The amendment to page 4 clarifies that the pull cable 4 is an adjustment mechanism and the amendment to page 7 adds an element number to springs "13, as illustrated in Figs 2A and 2B". No new matter is introduced by the amendments to the specification or drawings as antecedent basis for each element added is found in the specification, claims and/or drawings as filed, or the language added is merely to clarify and more clearly define the invention.

II. Amendment to the Claims

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, fourteen (14) claims are pending in the application. Of the pending claims, one (1) claim is independent. Claim 14 has been canceled. As discussed below, Claim Nos. 1-3 have been amended to place them in condition for allowance. No new matter has been introduced.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected Claim Nos. 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicant regards as the invention. Claim 14 has been canceled. Claims 1-3 have been amended to address each of the Examiner's objections under §112, as stated on page 3 of the Action.

Specifically, Claim 1 one has been amended, revising the preamble in keeping with Examiner's suggestion. Phrases which the Examiner has found to be vague have been removed and sufficient structure has been set forth to clarify in the interconnection and location of the pressure means on the seat. In Claim 2 the typographical error of a "flat element" has been amended to a "flattening element", as described on page 5 (first paragraph, line 3) of the specification. A similar change has been made to Claim 3 and a Markush Grouping is also introduced in the amendment of Claim 3. Claim 14 has been canceled.

Accordingly, in keeping with Examiner's statement that Claims 1 – 15 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, in view of the amendments requested herein it is submitted that all Claims 1 –13, and 15 now in the application are in condition for allowance. Thus the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is hereby requested.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claim is allowable under the US Patent Law. For similar reasons, and for the additional reasons set forth above, Applicant urges that the dependent claims are also allowable.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

/Grant D. Kang

By: Grant D. Kang, Reg. No. 37,651
Husch & Eppenberger, LLC
190 Carondelet Plaza
St. Louis, MO 63105
314-480-1640
314-480-1505 FAX